

FISCAL NOTE

HB 186 - SB 685

February 1, 2001

SUMMARY OF BILL: Prohibits an operator of a motor vehicle from using a mobile phone while the vehicle is in motion unless the operator maintains both hands on the steering wheel. Specifies that this prohibition does not apply when the phone is used in an emergency or used by emergency personnel when on duty. Specifies that a violation of these provisions is a Class C misdemeanor punishable only by a fine not to exceed \$25 and court costs not to exceed \$10. Specifies that no state or local litigation taxes shall be applicable.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Revenues - Exceeds \$100,000

Increase Local Govt. Revenues - Less than \$100,000

Estimate assumes:

- there are approximately 1.8 million cellular phone subscribers in Tennessee.
- there are over 4,200,000 licensed drivers in Tennessee.
- the state will experience an increase in revenues from fines levied and collected from violators. This increase depends on the level of enforcement and whether the prohibition affects mobile phone customers' calling habits. However, if just 1% of cellular phone subscribers are fined an average of \$10 per violation, the increase in revenues would exceed \$100,000.
- local governments will experience an increase in revenues from court costs paid by violators. This increase is estimated to be less than \$100,000.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James A. Davenport, Executive Director

HB 186 - SB 685